LOGISTICAL NOTE
Global Partnership Initiatives’ Acceleration Workshop
21-22 June 2016, Barcelona, Spain

1. Date

The GPI acceleration workshop will take place on 21-22 June 2016 in Barcelona, Spain, hosted by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

UCLG is the global organization of local and regional governments. With over 240,000 members in over 140 countries it is the broadest generalist association for the sub-national levels of governments. UCLG is the inheritor of the municipal movement that was initiated in 1913 and was renewed following the Habitat II conference. UCLG is accredited before ECOSOC and follows all major international policy making processes on behalf of local authorities. It has been involved in the Global Partnership since its outset.

2. Venue

The hotel and venue for the meetings on 21-22 June is the Hotel Colón.

Address
Av. Catedral, 7
08002 Barcelona
Tel. +34 93 3011404
http://www.colonhotelbarcelona.com

Location
Located right in the heart of Barcelona, the Hotel Colón is situated in the old town, opposite Barcelona Cathedral and a short walk from the Ramblas and Plaça Catalunya. The closest metro station is Jaume I (Line 4 - yellow).

Accommodation and negotiated room rates

The price of a standard double room for individual use is €120, and the price for a standard double room with double occupancy is €160 (price per room, per night, VAT and breakfast included). These prices do not include a tourist tax of €1.21 per person, per night.

To benefit from these negotiated rates, please contact the hotel directly at reservas@hotelcolon.es to book your stay and provide the code ID418458. The hotel can issue a booking confirmation document if needed.
3. Requirements to enter Spain

Entry into Spain for stays not exceeding 90 days per six-month period is subject to the conditions set forth in Regulation (EC) Nº 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006. We kindly invite you to visit the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs website in order to find out the entry requirements applicable to your nationality: http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/en/ServiciosAlCiudadano/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Paginas/RequisitosDeEntrada.aspx

Invitation letters

The organizing team will not be able to support visa application procedures. However, if you require a personalized invitation letter, please write to UCLGExBu@uclg.org.

4. Transport from airport to hotel

Participants should arrange their own transportation from the airport to their hotel. Barcelona’s main airport (Barcelona El Prat) is located in El Prat de Llobregat, about 14 km south-west of the city centre. You can get from the airport to the city centre (Plaça Catalunya) in the following ways:

Taxi

The journey from the airport to the city centre takes around 20 minutes and costs €28, on average.

Bus

An airport shuttle (Aerobús) runs between the airport and Plaça Catalunya approximately every 10 minutes to and from Terminals 1 and 2. Buses run from 05:30 to 00:30 every day. The journey takes around 35 minutes and a single ticket costs €5.90.

Metro

A new metro line (L9S – orange) links the airport and the city. The recommended itinerary for this journey is: from the Airport station to Torrassa, change trains in Torrassa station to line 1 – red (eastbound - direction Fondo) and then change trains again at Urquinaona station to line 4 – yellow (southbound - direction La Pau) to Jaume I station. The journey takes around 50 minutes. Metros run from 05:00 to 00:00 and a single “airport ticket” costs €4.50.

5. Additional information

Weather

June is one of the summer months in Barcelona, with pleasant temperatures and sunshine. Average daytime temperatures are around 24°C (75°F), with average minimum temperatures tending to drop down to 16°C (60°F). It is unlikely to rain.
Voltage

The standard voltage in Spain is 220-240 Volts. Electrical sockets are "Type C" (Europlug), "Type E" and "Type F" (Schuko) (see figure below). If your appliance's plug does not match the shape of these sockets, you will need to use a travel plug adapter.

Local time

The time zone in Spain is CEST (summer) UTC+2.

Telecommunications

The telephone country code for Spain is +34. The Barcelona area code is 93.

Currency

The currency in Spain is the Euro (EUR). Most major international currencies can be changed at banks, Barcelona-El Prat airport and bureau de change outlets. It should be noted that exchange rates may vary slightly from one institution to another. Most major credit cards are widely accepted in Spain.

Emergency

Dial 112 for health and safety emergencies (ambulance, police and fire).

To the best of its abilities, he UCLG World Secretariat is available for any specific support needed during your stay in Barcelona.

6. Documentation for the meeting

For environmental reasons, the workshop is intended to be ‘paperless’. Therefore, printed documents will not be available at the venue. Participants are invited to bring documents in the format of their preference.

7. Specific dietary requirements

If participants have special dietary requirements or allergies, please let us know by writing to UCLGEExBu@uclg.org. UCLG will make arrangements with the caterers to ensure that alternative menus are proposed. Please note that the organizers of the event are not responsible for any food allergy-related incidents and it is participants’ responsibility to inform the organizers of any health issues.